GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2858
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2003
TORTURE TO TEMPLE ELEPHANTS
DALPAT SINGH PARASTE

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received complaints regarding forcibly transportation of the temple elephants to the Mudumalai Sanctuary for `a so-called rejuvenation camp` under order of the Government of Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the complaints and the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE)

(a) & (b) No, Sir. However, Government have taken notice of the media reports alleging cruelty on the temple elephants during transportation to Mudumalai Sanctuary under directions of the State Government. Accordingly, the Chief Secretary of Tamilnadu was requested to put on hold further transportation of elephants.